World Bank loan to Andhra Pradesh

885. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank propose to extend a significant loan to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the projects that would be undertaken with this loan and the terms and conditions attached to this loan;

(c) whether similar financial help is also proposed to be extended by the World Bank to other backward cash-srapped States such as Bihar, Orissa, Jharkhand or Chhattisgarh for infrasturctural development; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE, IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Two state sector projects in Urban Reforms and Roads involving a total assistance of about $ 480 million are envisaged in the World Bank Country Strategy (2005-08) for Andhra Pradesh. The loan would be extended on standard IBRD terms and conditions for infracturs projects.

(c) and (d) In the World Bank Country Strategy for India for the period 2005-08, it is proposed to work proactively to try to build a productive development relationship, with these four states, namely, Bihar, Orissa, Jharkhand and Chattishgarh. In this regard, 7 proejcts cutting across sectors like.roads, health, water, rural livelihoods etc. and involving a total assistance of about $ 800 million are in the pipeline for these states.

Karnataka's economic restructuring plan

886. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank has promised to release a loan of Rs. 250 million US Dollars to the State Government of Karnataka as part financing towards the State Economic Restructuring Plan;

(b) what are the projects proposed to be financed under this plan with proposed outlays; and

(c) what is the time-frame for their completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise, in view of (a) above.

Total sanitation campaign under Panchayati Raj

† 887. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total sanitation campaign under the Panchayati Raj;

(b) the number of districts (Janpad) in Uttar Pradesh in which above campaign is being conducted;

(c) the names of districts for which State Government has requested the Central Government to release the next instalment of Centre's share under the above campaign; and

(d) the details of the decision taken by Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) Information on the subject is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Funds sanctioned for rural development through panchayats

888. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crores of rupees are being sanctioned for rural development through Panchayats;

(b) if so, how many stages are involved before the money sanctioned by Central Government reaches Panchayats;

(c) the steps being taken to cut down the number of stages/leaves; and

(d) the checks applied to ensure that the money given to Panchayats is spent for the purpose for which it was sanctioned?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.